

spending. Unfortunately, the Republican rhetoric about controlling spending does not match the reality of their own record.

In the 8 years since Republicans took control of Congress, discretionary spending has increased by an average of 6.5 percent per year, compared to an average of 1.6 percent in the previous 8 years. President Bush signed spending bills increasing spending by nearly 22 percent in the first 2 years he was in office.

Now, some of that was uncontrollable, due to the war and 9/11, but not all of it. When Republicans took control of Congress in 1994, total spending was \$1.4 trillion. Under their budget they propose to spend \$2.2 trillion next year, an increase of over \$800 billion over 10 years.

If we are going to come to the floor day after day, tax cut after tax cut, a tax cut a week, if that is your strategy, and you say we are going to control spending, you have got to do something about your record.

This is the way spending is going to increase under the budget that the majority has put forward this year. By the end of this decade, total spending under the Republican budget will be more than double what it was when Republicans gained control of Congress. You would not gather that by the rhetoric we heard again today. We just keep talking over each other.

But these are the facts of what is happening. If we are going to cut taxes and if we are going to do the things that you propose to do every week, then you have got to cut spending. Otherwise we are going to run this country into the ground. And you are not proposing to do it.

Earlier this week, the administration and Republican leadership have already agreed to increase discretionary spending for the next year by \$5.2 billion, an increase above the budget resolution they passed just 2 months ago.

Just today, the administration has informed the Committee on Appropriations that they will request another \$1.6 billion in supplemental spending for the current fiscal year, an increase. The Blue Dog budget called for tough spending limits by adopting the President's overall spending levels.

I have no quarrel with what the majority proposed on discretionary spending. This is the green line. I have no quarrel with that.

The budget conference report the Republicans passed earlier this year is essentially adopting the spending levels we had in the Blue Dog budget, and that was supported by a majority of Democrats. The Blue Dogs are willing to work with Republicans to hold the line on spending at levels in their budget resolution. Unfortunately, the actions of the last few days show that the Republicans are not willing to stick with the spending levels in their own budget, but yet we keep talking about we are going to control spending.

The Republican budget policies are increasing the most wasteful spending

in the Federal budget, the \$332 billion collected from taxpayers simply to cover our national interest payments. This debt tax consumed a whopping 18 percent of all Federal tax dollars this year, and will increase to 20.1 percent by 2013. This is an increase in the debt tax that working men and women are going to have to pay in order to fulfill the economic policy that we keep hearing about every day.

The bill that passed the House today would add another \$31 billion in spending, spending, spending. We had a \$3.48 billion problem, and what does the leadership on this side of the aisle propose to do? Spend \$30.39 billion more to solve a \$3.48 billion problem.

I do not know how much longer we can do that. It does not seem to bother anybody on the other side of the aisle. I used to join with you day after day after day in saying we need to balance our Federal budget. I used to vote with you. I have not changed my voting pattern.

Under the Republican budget plan, the national debt will increase to over \$12 trillion by 2013. Now, that may not bother anyone, and we can have another tax cut next week, which I understand we are going to have.

But let me say at this point, in closing, Mr. Speaker, the Blue Dogs have issued a letter of challenge to the Republican Message Group. I have spoken with the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. KINGSTON). We would like to have a little debate on this. We have got responsible people on both sides of the aisle that are just as worried about this as we are.

Instead of talking over each other and reading our 2-minute speeches and acting like we are not even in the same world, the Blue Dogs are challenging at least once every week, every night, for the rest of this year, if that is what we agree to do, to talk about these issues, and not just have me standing up pointing to the charts, but having my friends on the other side stand up and say, "You are all wet, Charlie. That is not the way it is," even though these come right out of your budget and the OMB.

I think we need to have a real debate on this issue. So we are making this challenge, I am making it publicly right now, and I look forward to Special Orders next Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday, in which we can sit down and talk about this.

If we are going to talk about controlling spending, then let us propose a budget that does it. Let us not vote down the Blue Dog budget that would have been balanced. Let us not talk about a constitutional amendment, which, by the way, I am for and we will be starting the charge on that also next week to require a balanced budget.

If you are going to talk about it, you have to be prepared to do those things necessary to do it. And you do not cut taxes and increase the debt cost, the interest debt cost by \$30 billion to

solve a \$3 billion problem. It will not work.

As we say back home in Texas, "that dog won't hunt."

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. JONES) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. JONES of North Carolina addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

#### CHILD TAX CREDIT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BURGESS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise tonight to discuss the refundable child tax credit that we voted on earlier this evening.

I appreciate the remarks of my good friend and next-door neighbor from Texas, but, Mr. Speaker, I have to ask, how did we get here?

Our friends on the other side of the aisle have characterized the recently passed Jobs and Growth Tax Act as "misdirected" and targeted to the wrong people. They say that in order to stimulate the economy we do not need to return the tax dollars to people who pay taxes.

Well, in 2001, and, of course, I was not here then, but this House did pass a tax bill that did return tax dollars to people who do not pay taxes, but the stimulatory effect to the economy from that activity was minimal. So 2 weeks ago we did something different, and we passed the President's economic stimulus plan, which put tax dollars back in the hands of the people who make our economy go. The other side complained about the deficit again, and yet this week they advocated extending the refundable child credit another \$3.5 billion.

Mr. Speaker, the fact remains that small businesses are becoming more and more important to the Nation's overall business activity. They create the majority of new jobs and account for half of the economy's private output.

The jobs and growth plan gives small businesses the ability to immediately expense up to \$100,000, instead of the current write-off of \$25,000 in capital purchases. This encourages small businesses to buy technology, machinery and other equipment that they need to expand their business and meet the needs of their consumers.

The jobs and growth plan increased the child tax credit and eliminated the marriage penalty and exempted another 3.8 million workers from Federal tax liability. And low-income families in particular benefited from this economic growth and tax relief package through a number of provisions.

We accelerated the expansion of the 10 percent bracket. This means workers

can earn more before they get moved into the 15 or 25 percent tax brackets.

Our jobs and growth program eliminated the marriage penalty.

We also accelerated the President's 2001 tax cut provision to increase the child tax credit to \$1,000. Accelerating the expansion of the child tax credit will provide 26 million families with an average tax cut of \$623. Obviously it means a great deal for a family of four, working to make ends meet each year.

While I recently was surprised to learn that the Democratic Caucus was interested in passing additional tax relief, I am pleased to work with them to accomplish several things. I would like to see us eliminate the marriage penalty in the child tax credit.

I would like to see us repeal the sunset included in the jobs and growth economic package to ensure that the child tax credit stays at \$1,000 through 2010, not just through the next election year.

I would like to reiterate with my good friend from Texas our commitment to the military tax relief provisions that passed this House in March. These provisions include the capital gains tax relief on home sales, tax-free death gratuity payments, and tax-free dependent care assistance for members of the military.

In the future, Mr. Speaker, I look forward to working with my friend from Texas and our friends on the other side of the aisle on fundamental tax reform, including permanent elimination of the death tax. I also look forward to holding the line on the Federal deficit by controlling discretionary spending as we start this year's appropriations process.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I think it is time that we have to focus on the fact that we cannot any longer punish those who work hard, take risks and are successful, the small business entrepreneurs in our society. America's economic recovery depends on the jobs created by the success of that segment of the population.

Mr. Speaker, our majority leader said it so well tonight: It is time for some of us not just to stand up for the cameras, but to stand up for America.

#### PUBLICATION OF THE RULES FOR THE PERMANENT SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE, 108TH CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. GOSS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. GOSS. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to transmit herewith the Rules of Procedure for the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence for the 108th Congress. The enclosed rules were adopted by the Committee, in February 2003.

Pursuant to rule XI, clause 2(a)(2) of the Rules of the House of Representatives, I request that the enclosed Rules of Procedure be printed in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD at the earliest convenient date.

#### RULES OF PROCEDURE FOR THE PERMANENT SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

##### 1. SUBCOMMITTEES

(a) Generally.

(1) Creation of subcommittees shall be by majority vote of the Committee.

(2) Subcommittees shall deal with such legislation and oversight of programs and policies as the Committee may direct.

(3) Subcommittees shall be governed by these rules.

For purposes of these rules, any reference herein to the "Committee" shall be interpreted to include subcommittees and the working group, unless otherwise specifically provided.

(b) Establishment of Subcommittees. The Committee establishes the following subcommittees:

(1) Subcommittee on Human Intelligence, Analysis, and Counterintelligence;

(2) Subcommittee on Technical and Tactical Intelligence;

(3) Subcommittee on Intelligence Policy and National Security; and,

(4) Subcommittee on Terrorism and Homeland Security.

For purposes of these rules, any reference herein to the "Committee" shall be interpreted to include subcommittees, unless otherwise specifically provided.

(d) Subcommittee Membership.

(1) Generally. Each Member of the Committee may be assigned to at least one of the four subcommittees.

(2) Ex Officio Membership. In the event that the Chairman and Ranking Minority Member of the full Committee do not choose to sit as regular voting members of one or more of the subcommittees, each is authorized to sit as an ex officio Member of the subcommittees and participate in the work of the subcommittees. When sitting ex officio, however, they—

(A) shall not have a vote in the subcommittee; and

(B) shall not be counted for purposes of determining a quorum.

##### 2. MEETING DAY

(a) Regular Meeting Day for the Full Committee.

(1) Generally. The regular meeting day of the Committee for the transaction of Committee business shall be the first Wednesday of each month, unless otherwise directed by the Chairman.

(2) Notice Required. Such regular business meetings shall not occur, unless Members are provided reasonable notice under these rules.

(b) Regular Meeting Day for Subcommittees. There is no regular meeting day for subcommittees.

##### 3. NOTICE FOR MEETINGS

(a) Generally. In the case of any meeting of the Committee, the Chief Clerk of the Committee shall provide reasonable notice to every Member of the Committee. Such notice shall provide the time and place of the meeting.

(b) Definition. For purposes of this rule, "reasonable notice" means:

(1) written notification;

(2) delivered by facsimile transmission or regular mail, which is

(A) delivered no less than 24 hours prior to the event for which notice is being given, if the event is to be held in Washington, D.C.; or

(B) delivered no less than 48 hours prior to the event for which notice is being given, if the event is to be held outside Washington, D.C.

(c) Exception. In extraordinary circumstances only, the Chairman may, after consulting with the Ranking Minority Mem-

ber, call a meeting of the Committee without providing notice, as defined in subparagraph (b), to Members of the Committee.

##### 4. PREPARATIONS FOR COMMITTEE MEETINGS

(a) Generally. Designated Committee Staff, as directed by the Chairman, shall brief Members of the Committee at a time sufficiently prior to any Committee meeting in order to:

(1) assist Committee Members in preparation for such meeting; and

(2) determine which matters Members wish considered during any meeting.

(b) Briefing Materials.

(1) Such a briefing shall, at the request of a Member, include a list of all pertinent papers, and such other materials, that have been obtained by the Committee that bear on matters to be considered at the meeting; and

(2) The staff director shall also recommend to the Chairman any testimony, papers, or other materials to be presented to the Committee at the meeting of the Committee.

##### 5. OPEN MEETINGS

(a) Generally. Pursuant to Rule XI of the House, but subject to the limitations of subsection (b), Committee meetings held for the transaction of business, and Committee hearings, shall be open to the public.

(b) Exceptions. Any meetings or portion thereof, for the transaction of business, including the markup of legislation, or any hearing or portion thereof, shall be closed to the public, if:

(1) the Committee determines by record vote, in open session with a majority of the Committee present, that disclosure of the matters to be discussed may:

(A) endanger national security;

(B) compromise sensitive law enforcement information;

(C) tend to defame, degrade, or incriminate any person; or

(D) otherwise violate any law or Rule of the House.

(2) Notwithstanding paragraph (1), a vote to close a Committee hearing, pursuant to this subsection and House Rule X shall be taken in open session—

(A) with a majority of the Committee being present; or

(B) pursuant to House Rule X, clause 11(d)(2), regardless of whether a majority is present, so long as at least two Members of the Committee are present, one of whom is a member of the Minority, and votes upon the motion.

(c) Briefings. All Committee briefings shall be closed to the public.

##### 6. QUORUM

(a) Hearings. For purposes of taking testimony, or receiving evidence, a quorum shall consist of two Committee Members.

(b) Other Committee Proceedings. For purposes of the transaction of all other Committee business, other than the consideration of a motion to close a hearing as described in rule 5(b)(2)(B), a quorum shall consist of a majority of Members.

##### 7. REPORTING RECORD VOTES

Whenever the Committee reports any measure or matter by record vote, the report of the Committee upon such measure or matter shall include a tabulation of the votes cast in favor of, and the votes cast in opposition to, such measure or matter.

##### 8. PROCEDURES FOR TAKING TESTIMONY OR RECEIVING EVIDENCE

(1) Notice. Adequate notice shall be given to all witnesses appearing before the Committee.

(b) Oath or Affirmation. The Chairman may require testimony of witnesses to be given under oath or affirmation.